

**Horizon Personal Communications, Inc.**  
1901 N. Roselle Road, Suite 500  
Schaumburg, Illinois 60195

May 16, 2006

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 – 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

***Re: WT Docket No. 01-309  
HAC Digital Wireless Telephones***

**Fifth Semi-Annual Report**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Horizon Personal Communications, Inc. ("Horizon"), is the licensee of Broadband PCS Station KNLF580 (C1-Block – Chillicothe, Ohio BTA). This report is submitted pursuant to the requirements of Paragraph Nos. 89 – 91 of the Commission's *Report and Order* (WT Docket No. 01-309), FCC 03-168, released August 14, 2003 ("R&O").

By way of background, Horizon is a small, Tier III Commercial Mobile Radio Service licensee, as defined in the Commission's E-911 *Order to Stay*, FCC 02-210, released July 26, 2002. Horizon's wireless system employs a CDMA air interface and is configured to operate as part of the Sprint PCS nationwide network. The company currently markets eighteen (18) digital wireless handset models. Of these, it is our understanding that twelve (12) meet ANSI Standard C63.19.

To achieve compliance with the Hearing Aid Compatibility ("HAC") requirements of the *R&O*, Horizon is at the mercy of the handset manufacturers to develop and market HAC-compliant digital wireless handsets. As a small, Tier III wireless carrier, Horizon has no influence over the product development and distribution decisions of wireless handset manufacturers; and, accordingly, must rely on the manufacturers to develop HAC-compliant digital wireless handsets for use on the company's network.

Given the foregoing, the information requested by the Commission is identified as follows:

**Item 1 -- Digital Wireless Phones Tested:** None. As described above, Horizon is a small carrier that is not involved in the handset development or testing process. The company plans to rely on testing performed by the handset manufacturers.

**Item 2 -- Laboratory Used:** None. *See* Response to Item 1.

**Item 3 -- Test Results For Each Phone Tested:** Not applicable. *See* Response to Item 1.

**Item 4 -- Identification Of Compliant Phone Models and Ratings According To ANSI C63.19:** Horizon has identified at least twelve (12) CDMA handsets that meet an M3 rating or better under ANSI Standard C63.19.

**Item 5 -- Report On The Status Of Product Labeling:** The Filer is not involved in product labeling or the development of labeling standards. However, we are aware that some confusion may arise regarding the handset labeling standards contained in the 2001 and draft 2005 version of the C63.19 standard, which specify different letter designations for HAC compliance. While the 2001 version of the C63.19 standard uses a "U" rating for radiofrequency (RF) immunity and a "UT" rating for acoustic coupling, the 2005 version uses labeling that is consistent with the switches on hearing aids (*i.e.*, specifying "M" for Microphone and "T" for T-Coil). Accordingly, all compliant handsets offered by PVT will be labeled with the "M" and "T" ratings associated with the 2005 draft version of the ANSI technical standard, as appropriate.<sup>1</sup>

**Item 6 -- Report On Outreach Efforts:** Horizon and its counsel have developed a hearing aid compatibility information sheet to assist hearing impaired customers in selecting current model phones and accessories most suitable to their needs. This information sheet will also serve to educate the company's employees and retail sales force about HAC-related issues and possible solutions. Horizon also plans to coordinate its HAC outreach efforts with those implemented by Sprint PCS.

**Item 7 -- Information Related To Retail Availability of Compliant Phones:** A growing number of CDMA handsets are available that meet an M3 rating or better under ANSI Standard C63.19. Horizon is currently offering twelve (12) such handset models, as follows:

Samsung A880  
Sanyo 200  
Sanyo 2300  
LG 225  
Blackberry 7250  
Motorola C290  
Sanyo 3100  
PalmOne Treo 650  
UT Starcom PPC 6700  
Samsung A840

---

<sup>1</sup> *See* In the Matter of Section 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones, *Order on Reconsideration and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, 36 CR 190, 20 FCC Rcd 11221 at ¶¶ 33-36 (2005).

LG 350  
Nokia 3155

In conjunction with Sprint PCS, Horizon shall maintain an appropriate selection of hearing aid compatible handsets for marketing to its current and potential subscribers.

**Item 8 -- Information Related To Incorporating Hearing Aid Compatibility Features Into Newer Models Of Digital Wireless Phones:** The incorporation of HAC features into newer models of digital wireless telephones will be accomplished by the handset manufacturers.

**Item 9 -- Any Activities Related To ANSI 63.19 Or Other Standards Work Intended To Promote Compliance With The Requirements Of The Commission's Report and Order:** None. Horizon is a small carrier that is not involved in standards development.

**Item 10 -- Total Numbers Of Compliant And Non-Compliant Phone Models Offered As Of The Date Of This Report:** As noted above, Horizon currently offers eighteen (18) different models of CDMA handsets. Upon information and belief, twelve (12) have achieved an M3 rating or better under ANSI Standard C63.19.

**Item 11 -- Any Ongoing Efforts For Interoperability Testing With Hearing Aid Devices:** None. Horizon is a small carrier that is not involved in handset interoperability testing with hearing aid devices.

For further information concerning participation by Sprint PCS in handset testing and the standards development process, the Filer directs the Commission's attention to the status report that will be filed in WT Docket No. 01-309 by participants in the ATIS HAC Incubator program. Should you have any questions concerning this report, please contact John Prendergast or Cary Mitchell of the law firm of Blooston, Mordkofsky, Dickens, Duffy & Prendergast. Either may be reached by calling (202) 659-0830.

Respectfully submitted,

HORIZON PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC.



Alan G. Morse  
Chief Operating Officer